

The Old Way of Baptizing.

32	Jesus		"Baptizing . . . into the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost."— <i>Jesus Christ</i> .
	John		John baptized Polycarp or directed his baptism, and some years after ordained him bishop of Smyrna. "Polycarp always taught what he learned from the apostle."— <i>Irenaeus</i> .
66	Polycarp		"Eighty and six years have I served Him, and He never did me wrong; how can I blaspheme my King that has saved me?"— <i>Polycarp</i> .
105	Justin		"Then we bring them to some place where there is water, and they are baptized by the same way of baptism by which we were baptized."— <i>Justin Martyr</i> .
135	Clement		"Ye were conducted to a bath just as Christ was carried to the grave, and were thrice immersed."— <i>Clement of Alexandria</i> .
166	Tertullian		"He commands them to be baptized into the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, not into a unpersonal God. And, indeed, it is not once only, but three times, that we are immersed into the three persons, at each several mention of their names."— <i>Tertullian</i> .
205	Monulus		"The true doctrine . . . doth yet abide with us, and especially in the article of baptism, and the trine immersion wherewith it is celebrated."— <i>Monulus</i> .
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The diagram and quotations need no comments nor explanations. Many witnesses testify to the old way. Basil, Ambrose, Chrysostom, Augustine, all were living in 375 A. D. Basil says: "In three immersions the great mystery of baptism is performed." Chrysostom says: "Christ delivered to his disciples one baptism in three immersions of the body." Augustine says: "After you professed your belief, three times did we submerge your heads in the sacred fountain." And Ambrose gives a lengthy account of this first way of performing Christian baptism.

From the beginning until now a large majority of Christian professors admit the validity of trine immersion. They say it fulfills the commission. But a common saying of the present day is, that one way is as good as another; that a drop of water is as good as an ocean, just so the heart is right. But the heart cannot be right in disobedience,

1. The old way of baptizing,—the Christ-given way,—is by trine immersion.
2. To change any ordinance is to concede to all persons the right to change any other ordinance.
3. To accept a changed ordinance is to grant the right to change.
4. It is a risk of spiritual death if we take from or add to any part of the revealed Word of God. Rev. 22: 18, 19.
5. "We are buried with him by baptism." Rom. 6: 4.
6. Paul taught, "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." Eph. 4: 5.

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